

ERIC Document Resume		See Instruction Sheet		DATE OF RESUME 8/5/65		DATE RECEIVED	
A. PUBLICATION DATA							
ERIC NUMBER ED000404		2. ORIGINAL CONTROL NO(S). 7156		3. IDENTIFICATION NO. N.A.		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACE BELOW	
4. AUTHOR(S): N.A.						MICROFILM COPY AVAILABLE YES ☒ NO ☐	
5. TITLE OF DOCUMENT ABSTRACTED: Study of "Bootstrap" Graduates, Comparing Grades of On- and Off-Campus Students						COPYRIGHT GRANTED YES ☐ NO ☒	
6. PUBLICATION TITLE: N.A.						COPYRIGHT RELEASE FILED YES ☐ NO ☐	
7. EDITOR(S): N.A.				8. PLACE OF ORIGIN Univ. of Maryland ORG. College, Park, Md. CITY, STATE		TYPE OF REPORT PROPOSAL ☐ IN-PROGRESS ☐ FINAL ☒ FOLLOW-UP ☐	
9. PUBLISHER OR SOURCE University of Maryland						OTHER ERIC REFERENCES:	
10. VOL. N.A.	11. PAGES N.A.	12. MO./YR. 59	13. TOTAL PP. 2	TELE. INST/LOC CODE	EXT.	ERIC SATELLITE CODE	
B. INDEXING DATA							
14. SUBJECT AREA				15. TYPE OF ENDEAVOR survey			
16. INDEXING TERMS (8-12) extension edu. G-24 students Y-15 evaluation G-19				surveys Y-18A			

17. ABSTRACT (MAX. 250 WORDS)

Brief summary of statistical survey of 144 "Bootstrap" students who are military personnel sent to the University of Maryland campus on temporary duty basis for completing degree requirements. Results indicate grading in offcampus courses is no more liberal than oncampus courses, and that offcampus students who later come to the campus to complete degree requirements more than hold their own with 4-year campus students.

ERIC No.	18. SOURCE OF ABSTRACT		
	C. FUNDING DATA		
	19. SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION	20. DIVISION OR DEPT.	21. CONTRACT NO.
		22. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	PROJECT NO.
		23. DURATION OR PROJECT	U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Office of Education

Study of "Bootstrap" Graduates,
Comparing Grades of On- and Off-Campus
Students. 1959
University of Maryland, College Park, Md.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS DO BETTER ON CAMPUS THAN OFF,

A survey of students who have studied on and off campus with the University of Maryland has revealed that the on-campus grades were appreciably higher. This study included 144 cases--all of them on-campus "Bootstrap" graduates who had previously taken work off campus with the University of Maryland.

All students earned the Bachelor of Science Degree in Military Studies except for 6 who took the Bachelor of Arts Degree in General Studies. The sample included all "Bootstrap" graduates in August 1958, January 1959, and June 1959 (an academic year and the preceding summer session) who had taken work with Maryland prior to coming to the campus.

The over-all average for courses taken on campus was 3.201 (B+), compared to the 3.055 grade average made off campus by the same students. "Bootstrap" students do exceptionally well either on or off campus compared to regular campus undergraduate students. For example, the grade average of graduates from a typical college of the University over the same period of time was 2.585. While 4.3 per cent of the students graduating from all other colleges of the University were honor students (3.5 or better), 18 per cent of the "Bootstrap" graduates were honor students.

A study has also been made of the records of the more than 8,000 students enrolled in the undergraduate colleges at College Park during the academic year 1958-59. Although University College had only 1.75 per cent of the entire number of students on campus, it had 8.3 per cent of the honor students, or more than four times its share.

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"Bootstrap" students are military personnel who are sent to the campus on a temporary duty basis for the purpose of completing the requirements for college degrees. Most of them are officers, are married, and have families. The average rank is major. A "Bootstrap" student receives his regular salary, but he pays his own tuition and fees.

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